

CLAIMS

1. A wireless security control system for use in a facility having a plurality of doors, the wireless security control system comprising
a central access control system in which access information is stored,
and

a plurality of remote access control systems each being adapted to be mounted to a respective one of the doors of the facility to control the locking and unlocking of the respective door, the central access control system wirelessly transmitting access information to the plurality of remote access control systems prior to any users associated with the access information making any attempts to unlock any of the doors, each of the remote access control systems being configured to receive wirelessly and store at least some of the access information from the central access control system, each of the remote access control systems being configured to control the locking and unlocking of the respective door using the access information stored therein, each of the plurality of remote access control systems making a decision whether to unlock the respective door in response to a user making an attempt to unlock the door based on the access information stored therein and without having to further communicate with the central access control system.

2. The wireless security control system of claim 1, wherein each of the remote access control systems includes an antenna, an access controller, and a receiver that is electrically coupled to the antenna and that communicates the wireless information received by the antenna to the access controller.

3. The wireless security control system of claim 2, wherein each of the remote access control systems includes a housing having inner portion to be mounted on an inside of the respective door and an outer portion to be mounted on an outside of the respective door, and the antenna is mounted to the outer portion of the housing and the remote wireless communicator and remote access controller are mounted to the inner portion of the housing.

4. The wireless security control system of claim 1, wherein each of the remote access control systems is further adapted to transmit wireless information to the central access control system.

5. The wireless security control system of claim 4, wherein each of the remote access control systems includes a switch for selectively choosing between receiving and transmitting wireless information.

6. The wireless control system of claim 1, wherein each of the remote access control systems includes a local communication port adapted to provide wired communication with a portable device.

7. The wireless security control system of claim 1, wherein at least one of the remote access control systems periodically initiates wireless communication with the central access control system and the central access control system transmits user updates to the at least one remote access control system in response to the wireless communication periodically initiated by the at least one remote access controller.

8. The wireless security control system of claim 1, wherein each of the remote access control systems is adapted to receive spread-spectrum RF information.

9. The wireless security control system of claim 8, wherein each of the remote access control systems is further adapted to transmit RF information.

10. The wireless security control system of claim 1, wherein each of the remote access control systems comprises

a reader adapted to read user data when presented to the reader,

a remote access controller electrically coupled to the reader, the remote access controller being configured to determine whether the user data is valid and being adapted to unlock the lock if the data is valid, and

a remote wireless communicator electrically coupled to the remote access controller, the remote wireless communicator being adapted to communicate information wirelessly between the remote access controller and the central access control system.

11. The wireless security control system of claim 10, wherein each of the remote access control systems further comprises a battery coupled to the respective reader, the respective remote access controller, and the respective remote wireless communicator.

12. The wireless security control system of claim 10, wherein the user data is stored on tokens, each of the remote access control systems is adapted to

store user history information regarding which tokens were granted access, and each of the remote access control systems is configured to transmit the user history information to the central access control system on one of an as-needed basis and a regularly-scheduled basis.

13. The wireless security control system of claim 12, wherein at least one of the remote access control systems periodically initiates a data transfer with the central access control system so that user updates are transmitted to the at least one remote access control system by the central access control system and so that user history information is transmitted to the central access control system by the at least one remote access control system.

14. The wireless security control system of claim 1, wherein the central access control system comprises a central access controller and a plurality of central wireless communicators connected to the central access controller.

15. The wireless security control system of claim 14, wherein each central wireless communicator is designated to communicate wirelessly with an associated one of the remote access control systems.

16. The wireless security control system of claim 14, wherein each central wireless communicator communicates wirelessly with more than one of the remote access control systems.

17. The wireless security control system of claim 14, wherein the central access controller communicates with the plurality of central wireless communicators using RF technology.

18. A security control system configured to control the locking and unlocking of a plurality of doors in a facility, the wireless security control system comprising:

a central access control system having a central access controller and a plurality of central wireless communicators electrically coupled to the central access controller, and

a plurality of remote access control systems located remotely from the central access controller, each remote access control system being adapted to be mounted to a respective one of the doors to control locking and unlocking of the respective door, each of the remote access control systems having a remote access controller and a remote wireless communicator electrically coupled to the remote

access controller, the plurality of central wireless communicators and the plurality of remote wireless communicators being configured to communicate information wirelessly between the central access controller and the plurality of remote access controllers.

19. The security control system of claim 18, wherein the central access control system further includes a bus and the central access controller is electrically coupled to the plurality of central access communicators by the bus.

20. The security control system of claim 19, wherein the bus is controlled by a local area network protocol.

21. The security control system of claim 18, wherein the plurality of central wireless communicators communicate with the central access controller and with the plurality of remote wireless communicators using RF technology.

22. The security control system of claim 18, wherein each of the remote access control systems periodically initiates wireless communication with the central access control system and the central access control system transmits user updates to the respective remote access control system in response to the wireless communication periodically initiated by the respective remote access controller.

23. The security control system of claim 18, wherein each central wireless communicator is designated to communicate wirelessly with an associated one of the remote access control systems.

24. The security control system of claim 18, wherein each central wireless communicator communicates wirelessly with more than one of the remote access control systems.

25. The security control system of claim 18, wherein each of the remote access control systems further includes a reader electrically coupled to the remote access controller and adapted to read user data and each of the remote access control systems periodically transmits the associated user data to the central access controller.

26. The security control system of claim 18, wherein each remote access controller is configured to transmit wireless information through the associated remote wireless communicator and at least one central wireless communicator to the central access controller to provide the central access controller with user access information.